

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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5.1*
1. A networked software dispensing vending machine comprising:
    - a bus;
    - a memory unit coupled with said bus for storing a software program;
    - a display device coupled with said bus;
    - a communications interface coupled with said bus for communicating
  - 10 with a portable computer system;
    - a network interface coupled with said bus for communicatively coupling with a remote network server;
    - a device coupled with said bus for receiving a payment for said software program; and
  - 15 a processor coupled with said bus for transferring said software program to said portable computer system in response to said payment.
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2. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 1, wherein said communications interface is a wireless communications interface.

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3. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 1, wherein said remote network server transmits additional software to  
said network interface for storage on said memory unit.

5 4. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 1, wherein said display device displays an emulated portable computer  
system.

10 5. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 4, wherein said network interface communicates a backup configuration  
of said portable computer system to said remote network server.

15 6. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 5, wherein the configuration of said portable computer system is restored  
using said backup configuration.

20 7. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 5, wherein said display device displays, in conjunction with said backup  
configuration, an emulated version of said portable computer system.

8. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 1, wherein said remote network server archives an inactive software  
program for said portable computer system.

9. The networked software dispensing vending machine as recited in  
Claim 1, wherein said remote network server transmits an updated version of  
said software program to said portable computer system.

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10. A software dispensing vending machine comprising:  
a bus;  
a memory unit coupled with said bus for storing a software program;  
a display device coupled with said bus;  
a communications interface coupled with said bus for communicating  
with a portable electronic device;  
a device for accepting a payment for said software program coupled with  
said bus; and  
a processor coupled with said bus for transferring said software program  
15 to said portable electronic device in response to said payment.

11. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 10,  
wherein said communications interface is a wireless communications interface.

20 12. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 10,  
further comprising a network interface for communicating with a remote network  
server.

13. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 12,  
wherein said remote network server transmits additional software to said  
network interface for storage onto said memory unit.

5 14. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 13,  
wherein said display device displays an emulated portable electronic device.

10 15. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 13,  
wherein said network interface transmits a backup configuration of said portable  
electronic device to said remote network server for storage thereon.

15 16. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 13,  
wherein said portable electronic device is restored using said backup  
configuration.

17. The software dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 15,  
wherein said display device displays an emulated version of said portable  
electronic device using said backup configuration.

20 18. The networked software and service dispensing vending machine  
as recited in Claim 10, wherein said remote network server stores an inactive  
software program for said portable electronic device.

19. The networked software and service dispensing vending machine as recited in Claim 10, wherein said remote network server updates said software program.

5           20. A networked device for dispensing software comprising:  
a bus;  
a memory unit coupled with said bus for storing a software program;  
a display device coupled with said bus;  
a communications interface coupled with said bus for communicating  
with a hand held computer system;  
a network interface coupled with said bus for communicating with a  
network;  
a device coupled with said bus for receiving a payment for said software  
program; and  
15           a processor coupled with said bus for downloading said software  
program into said hand held computer system in response to said payment.

21. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
20, wherein said communications interface is a wireless communications  
20 interface.

22. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
20, wherein said network interface receives additional software from said  
network for storage on said memory unit.

5           23. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
20, wherein said display device displays an emulated hand held computer  
system.

100          24. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
23, wherein said network stores a backup configuration of said hand held  
computer system.

105          25. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
24, wherein said hand held computer system is restored using said backup  
configuration.

110          26. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
24, wherein said display device displays an emulated version of said hand held  
computer system using said backup configuration.

115          27. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim  
20, wherein said network stores an inactive software program transmitted by  
said hand held computer system.

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28. The networked device for dispensing software as recited in Claim 20, wherein said network transmits an updated version of said software program to said hand held computer system.

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